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FRED S. BARDE, COLLECTION

Wherras the Citizens of Beaver City in particular and of Cimaron Territory in general feel a deep interest in the protection of their individual and respective rights; to hold all just and lawfully obtained claims upon town lots as well as homesteads and knowing full well the strife - bad feeling and danger to property and life, which may occur when claims become valuable - We the subscribers hereby endorse the selection

of the following
Board of directors
and request them
in their official
capacity to proceed
at once and prepare
a code of By-laws
for our future adop-
tion - also to prepare
a form of Quit-claim
deed for our common
use in the transfer
of claims from one
party to another

O. G. Chase Pres
J. T. Overstreet - Sec.
J. C. Coodge Treas.
J. S. Lane
L. N. McCulloch
B. O. Burtzoff
J. Donnelly
A. Tracy
ors Hunt

David L. Miller

L. G. Everman

R. G. L. Barnfield

Addison Mundell.

John Caper

John Wells

T. S. Legrel

M. V. B. Wilson

W. P. Olive.

[illegible]

G. W. Lancaster

H. C. Zelinger

W. King

W. G. Odenutte

M. Magann

J. R. King

[illegible]

Noah Lane

[illegible] Agans

J. C. Measle

[illegible]

Wm. F. E. Olsen

J. Coffey
Joseph Mulligan
D. C. Watson
M. C. Vance
N. P. Keith
L. Wells
J. S. Brewer

RULES AND REGULATIONS

—ADOPTED AT—

A MASS MEETING

Of the Residents and Citizens of

Beaver City, Cimarron Territory.

—HELD—

NOV. 29, 1886

CHIEFTAIN PRINT.
PUEBLO, COLORADO

CALL FOR A

MASS MEETING

TO BE HELD AT

Beaver City, November 29th, 1886

Whereas the citizens of Beaver City in particular, and of Cimarron Territory in general, feel a deep interest in the protection of their individual and respective rights to hold all just and lawfully obtained claims upon town lots as well as homesteads, and knowing full well the strife, bad feeling and danger to property and life which may occur when claims become more valuable, we, the subscribers, hereby endorse the selection of the following Board of Directors, and request them in their official capacity to proceed at once and prepare a code of By-Laws for our future adoption, also to prepare a form of Quit-Claim Deed, for our common use in the transfer of claims from one party to another

O. G. CHASE . . . . . President
J. A. OVERSTREET . . . . . Secretary
J. C. HODGE . . . . . Treasurer

Jas. Lane,	C. A. Selinger,
L. N. McIntosh,	W. King,
B. O. Bertholf,	W. J. Curnutte,
J. Donnelly,	M. Magaun,
A. Tracy,	M. King,
M. S. Hunt,	Geo. Scranage,
L. G Everman,	Noah Lane,
R T. D. Barnfield,	J. A. Hogans,
Adison Mendell,	J. C. Massie,
John Roper,	T. P. Massie,
John Wells,	F. E. Palmer,
J. S. Deyerle,	J. J. Sutz,
M. V. D. Wilson,	Joseph Mulligan,
W. P. Olive,	D. C. Watson,
H. V Smith,	M. C. Vance,
J. W. Lancaster,	Mrs. Nancy Keith.

CIMARRON TERRITORY.

By Cimarron Territory we mean the narrow strip of land north of Texas Pan-handle, east of the N E. corner of New Mexico, south of Colorado and Kansas, between the 100th and 103d meridian lines, only 34½ miles wide, or between 36 30 and 37 parallel lines, north latitude. A knowledge of this, the smallest territory that has ever presented itself for territorial government under the laws of the United States, is replete with traditional history. By the acquisition of this territory we see the multiplicity of changes in governmental jurisdiction. The historian and the scientist alike find vast stores of prehistoric lore, which open wide a prolific field for speculative thought. For many by-gone centuries this territory was owned and controlled by Old Mexico, or by Spain. In 1803

the United States purchased from France for $15,000,000 all the territory then known as the Louisiana territory, which was bounded on the south by the gulf of Mexico, running north along the Mississippi river to the British Dominion, including the present states of Louisiana, Arkansas, that part of Kansas and Colorado north of the Arkansas river only, Indian Territory west to the 100th meridian line, and several other northern states and territories. In 1833 the United States government organized Indian Territory and made a treaty which was fully consumated with the Indians in 1835. At that time Mexico and Spain owned all the land west of the 100th meridian line, and south of the Arkansas river, including Utah, California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas In 1845 Texas declared itself to be a free and independent republic, coming under the protection of the United States. Then followed the Mexican war, which ended with a treaty whereby our government became posssssed of all the land west of the 100th meridian line and south of the Arkansas river, including Utah, California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Texas only claimed according to her jurisdiction before the war north to the 36.30 parallel line. In 1850, when the Kansas and Nebraska bill passed congress, it was first framed so as to give to Kansas all land north of 36.30, but Stephen A. Douglass called the attention of the house to the fact that a treaty had been made with the Cherokee Indians in 1833 which gave them a strip of land running north to the 37th degree and west from the Missouri line to the 100th meridian line; and the Kansas and Nebraska bill was so amended as to leave the Cherokee strip unmolested, and at the same time leaving out this strip between Texas Pan-handle and the 37th degree north latitude. New Mexico and Colorado were afterward formed, with straight lines and square corners, thereby continuing to leave us out in the cold—See thirty-third congress, first session, pages 221 and 222, *Congressional Globe*; also see pamphlet published by O. G. Chase on Cimarron Territory, page 5 and 6.

Now as the facts begin to develope that here is one of the healthiest, best watered, best grazing, and best agricultural strips of land

to be found anywhere on the plains, Texas, New Mexico and Colorado want us, Kansas claims us, and the Indians demand us; but we, the squatter occupants and genuine residents, availing ourselves of the *nine points in law*, declare that we have possession, and the better to enable us to agree among ourselves upon some method of retaining our claims, both in town and country throughout this territory, we hereby resolve ourselves into a committee of the whole, to protect each other, and do endorse and adopt the following Rules and Regulations, thereby trying to avert discord and disputes among all our citizens in Cimarron Territory:

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SECTION 1. The strip of public land heretofore known as the *Neutral Strip, No Man's Land, etc.*, bounded as follows, viz: commencing at the N. E. corner of Texas Pan-handle at the 100th meridian line; thence north along said line 34½ miles to the Kansas State line; west along the southern border of Kansas and Colorado 167 miles to the 103d meridian line; thence south along said meridian line 34½ miles to the N. W. corner of Texas Pan-handle, or to the 36 30 parallel line; thence east along said line 167 miles to place of beginning, shall hereafter be known as Cimarron Territory.

SEC. 2. To establish and perpetuate judicial, legislative and executive organization in Cimarron Territory, it is hereby suggested and agreed by us that the territory should be divided into three representative districts, known as the First, Second and Third Representative Districts, and divided by the meridian lines. From the 100th to the 101st meridian line shall be the First district; from the 101st to the 102d meridian line shall be the Second district, and from the 102d to the 103d meridian line shall be the Third district.

SEC. 3. To enable us to consolidate our strength, and to know the wants of the people of the whole territory, it is also suggested and hereby agreed upon, that the entire population of Cimarron Territory turn out on February 22, 1887, and hold elections in their respective neighborhoods as near in conformity to law as possible, electing in each Representative District three representatives, who shall meet in Beaver City on the fourth day of March, 1887, as a territorial council.

SEC. 4. To carry out the object set forth in the preceding section, a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer is hereby elected and authorized to act as a local council, constituting a board to be known as the *Respective Claim Board.*

SEC. 5. The Respective Claim Board is authorized to proceed at once to have printed for squatter claimants' use, blank quit-claim deeds; and for each parcel of land or town lot the president and secretary shall execute a deed to the original resident claimant when called upon so to do; but if any contest appears to exist, or doubt as to the priority of rights existing in the claimant, then the matter shall rest, and no deed issue until all the parties interested shall have a chance for a hearing, and evidence filed in writing if demanded, and a decision rendered by a board of three disinterested citizen arbitrators, selected in the usual way by the parties interested. Either party feeling themselves agrieved may appeal to a new board of five arbitrators, selected as above, but must take such appeal within five days, and pay to the secretary of the company the sum of five dollars.

SEC. 6. For each parcel of land or town lot deeded as above, the President and Secretary shall each be entitled to the sum of [illegible]; but for each parcel of land or town lot deeded to non-residents a fee of five dollars shall be paid.

SEC. 7. All heads of families or single persons over twenty-one years of age, who have since April 1st, 1886, or may prior to April 1st, 1887, in person select and define the number and location of town lots, or not exceeding 160 acres of land in the country, according to U. S. survey, and so defined and made public that the

neighbors generally shall know the location, as well as the claimant's name and residence, such claims shall be held for such claimants in good faith until April 1st, 1887; Providing non-resident claimants shall not offer to sell nor allow others to offer such claims for sale; and providing further, that all such non-residents shall pay all fees as aforesaid prior to December 25, 1886.

SEC. 8. There shall be an average assessment of 50 cents made on all in side town lots, or parcels of land in the country, and one dollar for all corner lots in town; except town lots or parcels of land in the country where houses are built, and suitable for the occupancy of a family, there shall be no assessment. For each town lot exceeding five, and not exceeding ten, owned by any one person, such lots ~~shall be~~ charged double the above rates; and for all lots exceeding ten claimed by any one person, four times the above rates shall be charged; town lots or homesteads under fence shall only pay one-half the average assessment. A legal fence shall be two strands of wire, the first at least two feet and the second at least three feet above ground. All assessments shall be paid to the Secretary, and by him turned over to the Treasurer at once, taking his receipt therefor. The Treasurer shall first file a bond, payable to the President of the Board, to be accepted by the balance of the Board.

SEC. 9. All claimants taking deeds as above, and paying their regular assessments, are presumed to endorse these rules and regulations, and shall be protected in all their rights to land as well as town lots. Any citizen making violent threats, or resorting to force to obtain possession of any claim in dispute, thereby ignoring these rules, shall forfeit his respected right. In the event of any building burnt or maliciously destroyed, such claim shall remain intact, and any person attempting to jump such claim shall be deemed the incendiary. Any person changing or defacing any surveyed lines shall forfeit all his rights to land in this territory. Any person holding more than 160 acres, or offering one claim for sale while holding another, shall forfeit both. Any person maliciously injuring any improvements on anothers claim, shall make due restitution or forfeit his respected rights.

SEC. 10. All persons who have since April 1st, 1886, been on the ground and selected their claim with a view of returning, shall be protected as residents of this territory, providing they shall take deeds as aforesaid, and return and occupy their claim by the first day of April, 1887. But any such claims offered for sale by the claimant, or by his agent representing his claim here, may be declared forfeited; and all forfeited claims may be sold or donated to the first families coming into the neighborhood after the date of forfeiture. Any non-resident selling a claim to any one, such sale shall be void, and the purchaser held as a transgressor of squatter rights.

SEC. 11. For the organization of town sites in Cimarron Territory it is strongly recommended that each neighborhood send petitions to this Board at Beaver City, to be forwarded, asking congress to pass a general law facilitating town site organizations in unsurveyed territory. Also it is strongly urged that all persons should take steps as rapidly as possible toward judicial organization.

The citizens of the territory should show themselves capable, willing and even anxious for civil law, free schools, churches and all such evidences of thrift and prosperity. In selecting town site locations residents should calmly claim the best land for such purposes, irrespective of any man's greedy desire, and have the same patented for the public use only.

BEAVER CITY, November 29, 1886.

Minutes of mass meeting called by the aforesaid subscribers at 7 o'clock in school house .

Meeting called to order by J. A. Overstreet, and O. G. Chase elected to the chair.

On motion J. A. Overstreet was elected Secretary and J. C. Hodge Treasurer.

Call read by Secretary.

Rules and Regulations as per call, read by Chairman.

And after certain erasures the Rules and Regulations were adopted unanimously.

On motion meeting abjourned.

O. G. CHASE, *President.* J. A. OVERSTREET, *Secretary.*

Jan. 20th 87.

Brown City Cimarron Ty Jan 20 87

Pursuant to call, a meeting of about fifty citizens was held at Lanes Store house
O.G. Chase Pres — J.A. Overstreet Secy — at 7 pm — meeting called to order — Minutes read by the Secy also several letters from Senator Plum and others — also a Bill as amended in the U.S. Senate giving this Ty. an independent land dist — including rules for organization of townsites on unsurveyed lands —
A few remarks from Overstreet Chase — Jas — Lane Hodge & others.
Motion — by motion of Jas the meeting adjourned until 27th to give way for a dance announced in the same place —

Read & approved Jan 27th 1887
J.A. Overstreet Sec

Jan 25th 87

Beaver City = School house Jan 25th 1887

Special meeting called at 7 PM.
For conference with
Mr. Thos. A. Garrigues who was
here temporarily.
Pres O. S. Chase in the Chair
By request of Chairman
Mr Garrigues addressed the
meeting, endorsing our movements
and encouraging us to
go ahead —
Moved - by the Secretary to
amend sec 6 by striking
out 25¢ — Carried
Moved - That a committee
of seven be elected to
amend and add to Rules
and Regulations of Nov 29th
1887, presenting the same
for the consideration of the
organization, at its next
regular meeting — Moved

to amend by making the number of this committee five instead of seven
— Carried as amended
Dr Overstreet, O.S. Chase, D.C. Watson M. Magann Esq Jas Lane being elected —
Moved — By Mr Garriguer to instruct the committee on amending By-Laws in, that By-Laws shall so read — That in order to become a member of this organization an applicant shall have permanent improvements in Beaver City — at least to the amount — twenty five dollars — carried
Moved — By Mr Watson to make the temporary

organization of Nov 29th 1886
permanent and that
the officers elect shall
serve one year or till
a patent for our town-site
shall have been secured
— Carried.
Moved & Carried, that five
Directors be elected, M Magann
A. Tracy, D.M. Magann,
Jack Harvey and Wm Waddle
being elected.
On request U.S. H.R. Bill
No. 679 and Sec 2387. R.S.
were read.
There being no further
business the meeting
adjourned till the
regular meeting. Thursday
evening Jan 27th 1887
Read & approved Jan 27th 1887
J. Overstreet, Sec.

Jan 27th 87

Beaver Co. Cimarron Ty. Jany 27th 1887

Meeting Called to order by
O. S. Chase
Minutes of previous meeting
read by Sec. and approved
- Report read from Committee to
whom was referred amend-
ments to the By-Laws Said
committee providing that
Section 9 of printed R & R be
amended and new Sects No. 12 & 13
be construded as follows.
That - Sec. 9 of printed
Rules and Regulations
shall be so amended to the
first- period as follows:
-that no deed shall issue
from this organization to
any person unless such
person pays one dollar
and not- then unless said
Conveyee shall have

substantial improvements within the town site of Beaver valued at ($25.00) twenty five dollars or upwards in cash. The said deed so taken shall be a certificate of membership in the Respective Claim Board Organization and shall qualify said person to vote and act as a full member so long as such solid improvements shall remain and be the property of said person

Sec 12 The right to vote by proxy is given by deed to any individual property owner as per mandate sec 9, providing

such proxy vote shall be authorized in the handwriting of a legal voter in such language as to leave no doubt here to the authority given on the question before the house.

Sec 13 A Board of five directors having been created Jan 20th 1887, its duties are defined as follows: To carefully examine all our Rules and Regulations heretofore agreed upon also all subsequent Rules for our control or endorsement and report immediately carefully pointing out any obviously inconsistency or irregularity which may

appear and otherwise indorse said Rules and Regulations also that they shall have power to examine all books and papers pertaining to and belonging to the organization and at the first meeting of each month make a circular report in writing showing the amount of outstanding claims the amount of Cash paid in the year and amount on hand also any dereliction of duty from any officer or member of the Board of Directors shall be reported by the Chairman of said Board

at once to the President or to a meeting in session as the case may be. Also that said Board of Directors shall be the authority to decide upon the ~~property~~ qualification of our members when any dispute shall arise on that question, and if certificates have been wrongfully issued, such shall be pronounced void and recalled by the Directors and in addition to the duties enumerated such duties as usually devolve on directors of incorporate bodies in Canada may be taken from said Board of Directors

to a regular meeting of the organization in session. Each of the foregoing sections being discussed and acepted seperately —

Moved - That the Directors consider and report what in their judgment seems to be, to the best interest of the town in regard to stakes holding lots also as to what is best in regard to showing lots to strangers and locating and whether said women or women shall have any remuneration for such service, also whose duty it shall be to locate and inform

strangers — carried.
Moved — That the organization shall meet regularly on Thursday evening of each week at 7 o'clock P.M. at the Reading room or as agreed on or modified by the president — carried.

adjournment

Corrected by striking out the word hereto and approved Feb 10th 1870

W. Overstreet Sec.

Feb 10th 1887

Beaver City - Cimarron T. Feb 10th 87

Meeting called at Lines store by the President owing to storm —
E. S. Chase in the Chair
Minutes of meeting of Jan 27th read and approved as corrected.
Owing to the absence of certain Officers from town no meeting was held Feb 3rd —
Report of the Board of Directors read by Mr Chairman Mr. M. Maxum but as said Journal had not as yet taken a certificate of membership the report was declined by the president to go by default

By request the secretary Mr. H. Juissail of Dorlge who was temporarily in the city addressed the meeting commending our Rules and Regulations and advising us to go ahead — Original call read by the secretary —

adjournment

J. Quantrell, Sec.

Approved Jan 16th 1888

J. L. Lee

 Feb 16th 1887

Beaver City, Cimarron T. Feb 16th 1887

Meeting called by the president at the residence of O. G. Chase. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Bill for printing of 42.05 presented by O. G. Chase. Moved that bill be allowed and order drawn on the treasury for the same. Carried. The following resolutions were offered, and adopted.

Resolved - That the citizens of Beaver City should continue to claim the entire 640 acre survey for Town site purposes as made by the Wichita Town Co. and should loose no time in asking for land accepting a patent for 320 acres as soon as

any act of Congress shall enable us to do so —

Resolved - That it is the sense of this Respective Claim Organization that hereafter we attend all more meetings properly called for general interest - and that our members express themselves favorable for all information, but impart as little knowledge of our private meetings as possible —

Resolved - That nominations be made for a Territorial Council to be elected Feb 22nd with a view of

assembling in Beaver City March 4th 1887 - to consult with each other as to the best measures to be taken to further our general interests in favor of law and order.

Resolved - That the officers of this organization are fully instructed not to participate as such in mass meetings called by outsiders.

Resolved - That inclosures crossing the principal streets of Beaver City be taken down and the ties discharged

their for building purposes
Providing that the sense
of this Resolution shall
first be endorsed at
a mass meeting of our
citizens.

Moved that the election
be held at J. Garvey's
Jewelstore Next Tuesday
afternoon at 2 O'c (Feb 22nd)
and at that time the
organization be completed.
Carried

Moved that the R.C. Organization
have their regular meeting
on Wednesday evening
instead of on Thursday
evening as previously.
Carried

Organization
Adjourned to meet Feb 23rd at Grandmaison's
H.M. Rolfe. approved 2/23/88

Feb 19th 1887
Beaver Cimarron T

Special Meeting of Beaver R.C. organization called by the president at Hodge & Hodge's store for the purpose of locating a Cemetery it was unanimously agreed that the N.E. 1/4 of the N.W. 1/4 of Sec. 25 T. 4. Range 23 E should be selected for said purpose the selection being only acres from the claim mining camp it was further agreed that the Cemetery should be known as "King Cemetery"

J. J. Overstreet Sec

adopted Feb 25th 1887

Feb 23rd 1887

Beaver R.C. Organization met at residence of O. S. Chase

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Ruling was made by the President that all amendments to the By Laws shall appear in writing and shall be presented at a regular meeting of the organization and remain on the table till the next regular meeting before being acted upon

Moved that Sec 9 of printed Rules and Regulations as amended be amended by striking out the words, town-site of Beaver and in place

[illegible] of the words (within the Neutral Strip in vicinity of Beaver City) shall be inserted.

Adjournment of Convention

[illegible]

March 2nd 1887

Beaver R C Organization

Met at residence of O.S. Chase
- Minutes of previous
meeting read and
approved.
Minister of Corners
interest of March 2nd 1887
on the remains of
Thompson & Bennett read
Moved That Interest
as reported be endorsed
and the report including
the Corners being paid
be placed on record
and filed — carried
Moved - That Sec. 9. of
By Laws be amended
as provided for in
minutes of Jan 23rd 1887
Carried
Moved and carried
That Rev R McQuarrie

be authorized to take
charge of the funeral
obsequies of Thompson
Bennett: &c
Moved - That a committee
of three be appointed to
consider the matter
of issuing marriage
licenses in connection
herewith - Carried, and
Mr Magnum, & Smith and
Lafayette Wells were
appointed on said Com.
Adjourned to
meet at the office of
Sec. Montreal March 9th 1867
A. Oliver Sec

Approved Feb 7th 1867

Beaver R.C. Organization

met at Office of Dr D.F. Cord
as per adjournment
of March 2nd.
Minutes of last
meeting read and
approved.
The following resolution
was introduced —
In connection with
a Resolution passed
March 4th 1887 by the
Territorial Council
authorizing Auxiliary
Councils to be organized
in Towns & Incorporated
Cimarron Territory
It is hereby
Resolved - That the
organization above here to fore
known as the "Beaver
Respective Charitable Organization"

Name of B.N.C.O. changed on June 9, 1884, as a result of Provincial Council meeting

ved and is hereafter known as the "Beaver Auxiliary Council" and that this change of name shall apply to all By Laws and other matter whether written or printed pertaining to this Organization carried.

Points of general interest to the members of the Organization discussed.

Adjournment to the office of J.N.O. March 23rd 1887

A Overstreet Sec

Papers read March 23rd 1887

March 23rd 1887

Beaver Auxiliary Council met as per adjournment at the office of J. A. Overshed. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The following Resolutions were passed -

Resolved that the Beaver Council do all in its power to prevent the diminution of stray cows and other surveyors marks within the boundaries of Beaver as well as throughout the country at large -

Resolved - That each and every member of the Beaver Auxiliary Council act as a committee to urge all good citizens in

this vicinity to join and help us in every enterprise of benefit to this locality —

Resolved That it be the sense of this Council that the Territorial Council should pass some kind of an act to keep open and improve the public highways.

Resolved That it be the sense of this Council that the Territorial Council should do all in its power to establish better mail facilities in the Territory. Moved & carried that the resolutions as read be laid over for one week. Adjourned. A. Ovenshiro

office Mar. 10th 1858 J. J. Overshiro Secy.

March 30th 1887.

Beaver Auxiliary Council

Minutes of last meeting read and approved
Report of administrators on the estate of O. P. Bennett deceased filed with the secretary
Moved & Carried that a committee of three be appointed to negotiate the question of small circus throughs in the city
The following were appointed J. Savory R. M. Overstreet & M. L. Kramer
Moved & Carried that the Beaver Council do all in its power to prevent the hundreds of tramps coming and other annoyances and work within the bounds of

Meeting March 30 1887

Beaver as well as throughout the County at large.
Resolved that each paid up member of the Beaver Auxiliary Council act as a committee to urge all good citizens in this vicinity to join and help us in every enterprise of benefit to our locality.
Resolved that it be the sense of this Council, if the Municipal Council should see some kind of an act to open up and improve the public highways, a government to be observed in price.

April 6th 1887

J.C. Hodge, acting Secy.